



Remifentanil 1 mg Vials

The issue:

Remifentanil 1 mg vials are currently available only in reduced (monthly) quantities from the sole source vendor in Canada, Sterimax. NH pharmacy has been ordering all allocated stock and requesting additional supply from Sterimax as needed, but by the end of each month supply is quite low across the health authority.

As future stock levels may not meet usual demand, some sites may start experiencing stock outs if conservation measures are not implemented.

Estimated Resolution: undetermined (possibly summer 2022)

Practice Implications:

- Clinicians should be aware of this drug shortage and conserve stock whenever possible.
- All clinical areas using remifentanil should review relevant practice guidelines on using alternative agents, as appropriate.

Potential Formulary Alternatives*:

- SUFentanil
- FentaNYL

April 29, 2022 For the information of physicians, nurses, and pharmacists. PLEASE POST	Drug Shortage	✓	For further information contact: Medication Use Management Pharmacists mumpharmacist@northernhealth.ca
	Drug Discontinuation		
	Medication Change		
	Best Practice		

*Alternatives are provided for clinician information and may not be appropriate for all clinical situations. The information provided does not replace clinical judgment.